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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR			ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/420,692	10/19/99	BESTERMAN	•	Ţ	106.101.197
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NANCY CHIU PH D				EPPS,J	
HALE AND DORR LLP				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
50 STATE STREET BOSTON MA 02109				1635	
			-	DATE MAILED:	09/20/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Offic Action Summary Samin r	*	Applicati n N .	Applicant(s)					
Period for Reply 1635 SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE of this communication of 37 CPt 1.13(a). In no event, however, may a rapple be inney filed after \$5.0 (a) MONTHS from the rangillagets of this communication. Publish the absolute primary and the control of the provisions of 37 CPt 1.13(a). In no event, however, may a rapple be inney filed after \$1.0 (a) MONTHS from the rangillagets of this communication. Publish the battleshop primare of this CPt (a) MONTHS from the rangillagets of this communication. Publish the battleshop primare of the period to the period of the provisions of the provisional application of the provis		09/420,692	BESTERMAN ET AL.					
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2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s)	THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).							
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3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application). a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121. Attachment(s) Attachment(s) Attachment(s) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.							
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14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application). a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121. Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6) Other:	application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))							
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Attachment(s) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) Other:	a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.							
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) Other:								
Patent and Trademark Office	2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	5) Notice of Informal Pa	PTO-413) Paper No(s) tent Application (PTO-152)					

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-6, 11-41, and 46-50, drawn to a method and compositions for inhibiting the expression of a gene in a cell comprising contacting the cell with an effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide which inhibits the expression of gene, and an effective synergistic amount of a protein effector of a product of the gene, wherein said gene encodes a DNA methyltransferase, classifiable in for example 435/6, 435/375, 514/44, 536/24.5.
 - II. Claims 1-4, 7-8, 11-39, 42-43, and 46-50, drawn to a method and compositions for inhibiting the expression of a gene in a cell comprising contacting the cell with an effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide which inhibits the expression of gene, and an effective synergistic amount of a protein effector of a product of the gene, wherein said gene encodes a Histone deacetylase, classifiable in for example 435/6, 435/375, 514/44, 536/24.5.
 - III. Claims 1-4, 9-10, 11-39, and 44-50 drawn to a method and compositions for inhibiting the expression of a gene in a cell comprising contacting the cell with an effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide which inhibits the expression of gene, and an effective synergistic amount of a protein effector of a product of the gene, wherein said gene encodes a

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Thymidylate Synthase, classifiable in for example 435/6, 435/375, 514/44, 536/24.5.

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- 2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:
- 3. The inventions of groups I-III read on methods requiring the use of compositions comprising an antisense oligonucleotide which inhibits the expression of a target gene and a protein effector of a product of said target gene, wherein said target gene is selected from a DNA methyltransferase, a Histone deacetylase, and a Thymidylate Synthase. The genes encoding a DNA methyltransferase, a Histone deacetylase, and a Thymidylate Synthase are structurally and functionally distinct genes, which are transcribed into chemically different RNA molecules having unique secondary and tertiary folding patterns and furthermore having different accessible sites available for hybridization with complementary nucleic acid molecules. Therefore, antisense oligonucleotides designed to target the RNA molecules encoded by structurally distinct genes would comprise patentably distinct sets of antisense oligonucleotides and compositions comprising said antisense oligonucleotides. Moreover, methods requiring the use of distinct sets of antisense oligonucleotide compositions would also represent patentably distinct subject matter.
- 4. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).
- 5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one

or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janet L Epps whose telephone number is 703-308-8883. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Friday, 9:00AM to 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John LeGuyader can be reached on (703)-308-0447. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3014 for regular communications and 703-746-5143 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

Janet L Epps

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JLE September 19, 2001